

**657—3.5(155A) Certification of pharmacy technicians.** Prior to July 1, 2010, the certification and recertification of pharmacy technicians shall be voluntary and not mandatory. Beginning July 1, 2010, the certification of pharmacy technicians shall be required as provided by this rule. National certification does not supplant the need for licensed pharmacist control over the performance of delegated functions, nor does national certification exempt the pharmacy technician from registration pursuant to these rules.

**3.5(1) *Voluntary certification prior to July 1, 2010.*** An individual who holds a valid current national certification from the Institute for the Certification of Pharmacy Technicians (ICPT) or the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) and who acquired such certification prior to July 1, 2010, shall be deemed to have met the requirement for national certification beginning July 1, 2010, provided the certification is maintained in current standing.

**3.5(2) *Required certification effective July 1, 2010.*** Beginning July 1, 2010, a pharmacy technician shall acquire national certification through any NCCA-accredited pharmacy technician certification program and examination, the successful completion of which fulfills the requirement for national certification. National certification of a nuclear pharmacy technician employed solely in the practice of nuclear pharmacy shall be pursuant to certification requirements identified in 657—Chapter 16.

**3.5(3) *Pharmacy technician trainee.*** Beginning July 1, 2009, a person who is in the process of acquiring national certification as a pharmacy technician shall register with the board as a pharmacy technician trainee. The registration shall be issued for a period of one year and shall not be renewed.

**3.5(4) *Certified pharmacy technician.*** Beginning July 1, 2010, all applicants for a new pharmacy technician registration, except as provided by subrule 3.5(3), and all applicants for renewal of a pharmacy technician registration shall provide proof of current national pharmacy technician certification and shall complete the application for certified pharmacy technician registration.